



## COME JOIN US AS WE PLAN A GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM THAT IS INSPIRING!

The General Education working group (Pillar One of the Strategic Initiative) would like to invite you to participate in a faculty focus group about the *future of General Education*. We would like to have a conversation with **you**, the faculty, about the direction of our general education program. We are interested in your ideas, and we want to imagine with you a general education program that is inspiring to faculty and students.

When: Oct. 3 from 9:00-10:30 am **or** Oct. 4 1:00-2:30 pm

Where: Student Union Rincon Room

Why: To hear your ideas for the future of UA's general education program

There are hundreds of faculty and room is limited, so **RSVP** now to save your place! Coffee and snacks will be provided.



### Additional Context

There was a general education task force convened in 2017/18 to begin a review of the current general education program and make recommendations moving forward. The Strategic planning committee also reviewed general education and together with the task force, formed a working group focused on gen ed.

The plans for staffing an office of general education are moving forward, as the search for a director will soon be posted. The College of Education and Student Success are piloting a first-year course this semester. The Themes group is busy identifying instructors and interdisciplinary courses for the spring semester, and the skills committee is working to establish the skills competencies and their means of instruction.

**Here are a few of the talking points/questions we would like to get feedback from all of you.**

- What components of a new Gen Ed curriculum would inspire and excite our students and faculty? What should the outcomes of this program be?
- How would we develop/create themes for a GE curriculum? What specific themes might make sense for our students and institutional context?
- What kinds of cross-disciplinary collaboration should we be creating in the GE curriculum? How can we best create interdisciplinary courses?

## OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT

### MINI-COURSES

You can expect to spend about an hour a day on the content for these online mini-courses. Where indicated below, some include synchronous meetings, but most of the work for these will be at your own pace.

For more info: [OIA website](#)

### Building Intentional Learning Relationships

September 30-Oct. 4, 2019

This 5-day, fully online mini-course will help you address the intersections between cognitive and affective learning to promote academic achievement for your students. Drawing from the research on culturally responsive teaching, you will practice strategies and techniques for building intentional learning relationships with students. This course includes two synchronous, optional webinars. Your expected time investment are 1-2 hours per day. A showcase and feedback session takes place one week later. This mini-course will be capped at 20 participants.

### Reimagining Online Lectures

November 4-8, 2019

This five day online mini-course will invite participants to reconsider the construct of "lecture" as it relates to online teaching and learning. Participants will explore ways that online content might be created and delivered.

### Fine-Tuning Your Course as a Road Map for Learning

January 6-10, 2020

This 5-day, fully online mini-course allows instructors to refine an existing course plan and syllabus. Using the methodology of backward design and the principle of alignment, participants will revise and peer-review the learning outcomes, assessment plan, and other aspects of their courses to create an effective "road map" for learning via the course syllabus.

